

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-11

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 L-03 TRSE-00 INT-08

OMB-01 SS-20 SCEM-02 /076 R

DRAFTED BY EB/AVP:DBORTMAN/AN:PJGLASOE:VLV

APPROVED BY EB/OA:JSMEADOWS

EB/AVP - MR. SILBERSTEIN

FAA - MR. JETT

----- 072592

R 071722Z DEC 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRN, LE

SUBJECT: CIVAIR - FUEL SHORTAGE

REF: BEIRUT 13835, 13741, 13545

1. DEPT HAS BEEN IN REGULAR CONTACT WITH PAN AM ON TMA FUEL PROBLEM AND REPRESENTATIVE OF TMA HAS APPROACHED US. AT PRESENT, BONDED FUEL (NORMALLY USED FOR INTERNATIONAL SERVICES) IS NOT UNDER ALLOCATION BY USG AND NO REGULATORY MECHANISM EXISTS TO PROVIDE FUEL FROM DOMESTIC STOCKS IN TMA SITUATION. FYI. PAN AM CLAIMS TO BE IN NO POSITION TO

SHARE WITH TMA FROM ITS OWN AVAILABILITIES. HAS INDICATED IT EXPECTS TO BE OUT OF BONDED FUEL AND WILL HAVE TO SUSPEND OPERATIONS AT ANCHORAGE DEC. 14, AT FAIRBANKS DEC. 28, AND AT SEATTLE DEC. 12. END FYI. NEW POLICIES AND REGULATIONS COVERING AVIATION FUEL ARE EXPECTED BY TURN OF YEAR.

2. TMA REPRESENTATIVE APPEARED TO UNDERSTAND DIFFICULTIES CAUSED BY FAST DEVELOPING SHORTAGES, PARTICULARLY IN RESPECT

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TO THE BONDED FUELS USED BY INTERNATIONAL CARRIERS AND FACT

THAT ALLOCATION OFFICES AND POLICIES ARE IN STATE OF GESTATION. WE FURTHER ASSURED HIM THAT WE ARE ACTIVELY SEEKING SOME SORT OF AD HOC SOLUTION TO TAKE CARE OF TMA WHILE LONGER TERM POLICIES BEING DEVELOPED.

3. FROM REGULATORY POINT OF VIEW, TMA IS QUITE FREE TO CHANGE THE POINT IN THE U.S. WHERE IT MAKES ITS TECHNICAL STOP. NO USG "APPROVAL" REQUIRED. IF A POINT OTHER THAN THOSE ALREADY MENTIONED IN ITS OPERATING SPECIFICATIONS (ISSUED BY THE FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION) IS CHOSEN, TMA WOULD MERELY HAVE TO APPLY ROUTINELY TO FAA IN NEW YORK FOR AMENDMENT OF ITS OP SPECS. (CURRENT OP SPECS ALREADY INCLUDE SEATTLE AND COLD BAY AS DESIGNATED REFUELING POINTS.) OF COURSE, APPROPRIATE ARRANGEMENTS BETWEEN TMA AND THE RELEVANT AIRPORT MANAGEMENT WOULD HAVE TO BE CONCLUDED, AND QUESTION OF FUEL AVAILABILITY LIKELY TO BE AN ISSUE AS MOST SUPPLIERS AT PRESENT APPEAR UNWILLING TAKE ON NEW CUSTOMERS. KISSINGER

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